



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Nashville District

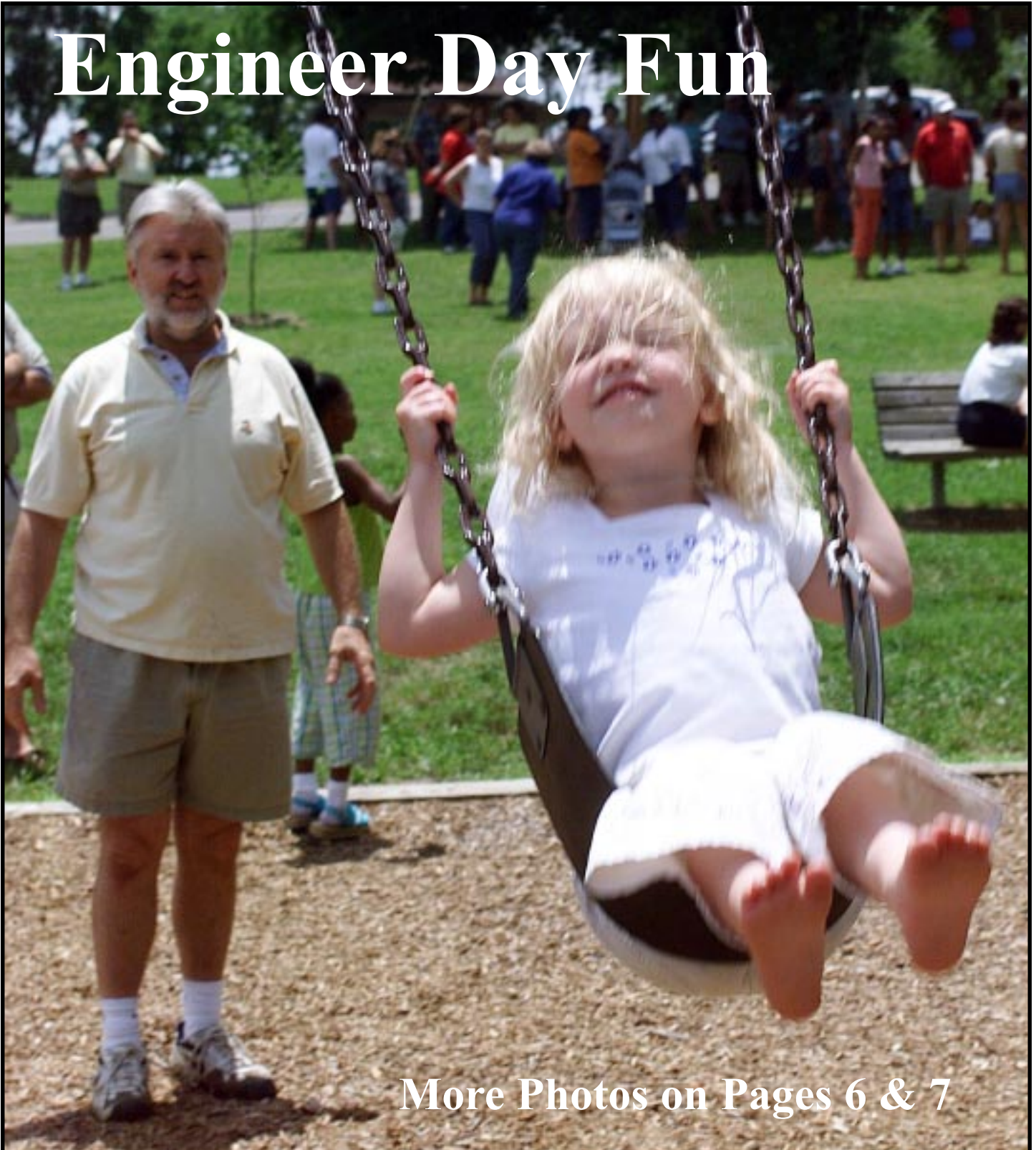
DistrictDigest

Volume 102, Number 7

Respected-Responsible-Reliable

July 2002

Engineer Day Fun



More Photos on Pages 6 & 7

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Security Reminder

As required in memorandum, CEPM-ZC, subject: Certification of Telecommunications Security Monitoring Notification Procedures, dated 28 May 97, all Nashville District employees are reminded of the following:

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Photo by Dave Treadway

On the Cover

James Gunnels, Design Branch, Engineering-Construction Division, pushes his granddaughter so she can enjoy the swings at the Engineer Day Picnic June 14 while others in the background attempt to cool off a volunteer in the dunking booth.

DistrictDigest

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Articles, photographs, and other contributions are welcomed and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to all material submitted for publication.

Story ideas and articles may be submitted to P.O. Box 1070, Nashville, TN 37202-1070. Details may be obtained from the editor at (615) 736-7161.

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Information about the Nashville District may also be found on the District's homepage at: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>.

Lieutenant Colonel Steve Gay

The Bottom Line

June was a great month with a variety of successes throughout the District from where I sit. The entire District team, consisting of those deployed and those who supported from the District office who executed the debris removal mission in response to the Virginia floods, did an outstanding job supporting FEMA and assisting the unfortunate residents of the Hurley, Va. area.

While the circumstances surrounding this entire mission were less than favorable, the District team hurdled every obstacle and accomplished the mission in spite of frequent and even some bizarre obstacles. I appreciate everyone's efforts and hope that we never have to do this again but if we do, I am confident we will excel. By the way, as you may well know, this region experienced a slight earthquake in the middle of the recovery mission. I was once again impressed, but not surprised, with the quick action by the Engineering and Construction Division

and Operations Division professionals who quickly and expertly assessed the situation and declared all of our potentially affected projects safe.

Dave Day, Carol Warren and I visited several congressional offices in June to give them an update on District projects. As always, I was proud to present the accomplishments of the entire District to our elected leaders. Once again, I received high praise and appreciation for all the work you do in service to the region and nation.

I was able to visit the Wheeler Lock dewatering twice in June, and could not have been more impressed with the actions of the professionals within the Nashville and Florence repair teams, the fleet, the Engineering and Construction Division, and the Operations Division. The entire team developed a comprehensive plan and executed flawlessly, completing the job without any accidents, ahead of schedule and under budget. The



Nashville District is truly blessed with the professionals it takes to conduct a safe dewatering!

June has to be one of the best months I have had as the District Engineer because I was able to visit with so many of you at a number of our annual Engineer Day Picnics, the Wheeler dewatering, and Major Richard Shelton's farewell. It's always great to see all of you, especially in a fun and relaxed setting.

I have the privilege of welcoming two new key players on the District team this month. By now you have heard of, or maybe already met, Ms. Cassandra Mora, our new Chief of Contracting, and Major Bob Pegg, our new Deputy District Engineer. Both come to us with a wealth of experience and a fresh set of eyes to help lead our efforts in maintaining our status as the best District in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers!

Summer is upon us and many of us will be driving while on vacation. I want to offer some common sense driving tips to make your trip safer. Drivers who quit before getting too tired, anticipate the needs of other drivers, exhibit a little common courtesy, and go with the flow are the ones who have the safest and most enjoyable vacation trips. Adjust your side view mirrors correctly to see the side of your car, not behind you. Look ahead of traffic flow at least 10 seconds to anticipate potential trouble ahead. Also, have your car serviced and inspect tires, belts and hoses.

Thanks to all of you, I have the best job in the entire U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Keep up the good work and please join me in my quest to have a good day, everyday while serving in the Nashville District.

Make a Difference! □

June Employee of the Month

Tim Wright, Lockmaster at Ft. Loudoun and Melton Hill Locks in Tennessee, was selected Nashville District Employee of the Month for June 2002. Tim's emphasis on safety sets a high standard in the Nashville District. He is proactive and passionate in his methods of promoting a safe work place. He has been open-minded, innovative, and very willing to try new safety apparel and equipment. In overseeing work that is difficult, strenuous and often dangerous, Tim keeps the safety of his team foremost in his mind. Tim is also a great ambassador for the Corps. He volunteers his time to conduct educational tours of the lock to show how we safely "lock-through" boats, barges, and other watercraft. Tim exemplifies those U.S. Army values of duty, selfless service, integrity, and personal courage. Please congratulate Tim the next time you see him.

Senior Leaders select the Nashville



Tim Wright

District Employee of the Month from the many excellent employees identified by the District's chain of command. Selected individuals personify the seven Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. □

Major Pegg Named Deputy District Engineer

Major Robert Pegg will become the new Deputy District Engineer July 12. He comes to Nashville from Fort Riley, Kansas, and will replace Major Richard Shelton, who now moves on to an assignment in the Pentagon. Maj. Pegg was commissioned an infantry second lieutenant in the Texas National Guard in May 1985 and was re-commissioned as a Corps of Engineers officer in the active Army in December 1986 upon his graduation from Texas A&M University.

With various units over an eight-year period, he then served as a platoon leader, company executive officer, assistant operations officer, brigade supply officer, services officer, and company commander.

Following Graduate School at Texas

A&M University where he earned a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering, Construction Management, he was assigned to the Fort Leavenworth Area Office of the Kansas City District, Corps of Engineers, as a project officer. During this assignment he served in Bosnia for six months as the USAREUR project officer in support of I-FOR and Operation Joint Endeavor. He then moved to Fort Riley, Kansas as the personnel officer for the 937th Engineer Group and as the operations officer for the 70th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

He is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the U.S. Army Northern Warfare School, the Junior Officer Maintenance Course, the Com-

bined Arms Service & Staff School, and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. He and his wife Laura have four children, Chris (19), Daniel (16), William (4) and Robert (2).

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Armed Forces Service Medal. □



District Employee Visits Bulgaria, Helps Rebuild

by Dave Treadway

Nashville District employee Ken Laster, who is a Sergeant Major in the Tennessee Army National Guard, 194th Engineer Brigade (TA), has been deployed to Bulgaria since May in a Partnership for Peace exercise between the U. S. and the old eastern bloc countries.

While there, he is helping build a 360-foot-long bridge across the Maritza River, a fast-moving river that separates two villages previously connected only by a nearby footbridge. The new Sinitevo Bridge, constructed by engineers from assembled nations, will enable villagers from both sides to move goods easily across the river, impossible on the small footbridge. People could only walk and ride bicycles across the footbridge but could not trade with each other most of the year due to high swift water in the river.

The exercise is designed to provide valuable training for both U.S. and Coalition forces on Mission Essential Task Lists, improve engineer interoperability, allow participants to practice joint and combined engineer operations and strengthen the Southeastern European Alliance.

The U.S. led exercise also includes

Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, Turkey and Romania, all members of the South Eastern European Brigade, a branch of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is also a part of the exercise.

SGM Laster is serving as the U.S. Forces Command Sergeant Major, one of the units in CETFOR (Coalition Engineer Task Force). U.S. Forces number 160 and those of other countries total 300. He will return to the Nashville District August 1.

"In addition to Army Soldiers," said Laster, "there are also Navy Seabees and Combat Engineer Marines. We are housed at the Host Nation Engineer Regiment 44220 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, located in the south central part of Bulgaria."

Laster explained some arrangements set up there for U.S. Forces. "Our morning and evening meals," said Laster, "are local contract, Bulgarian food, and it's Meals Ready to Eat (MRE's) for lunch or at a



Photo by Ken Laster

A resident of Sinitevo approaches the Maritza River to cross under the new bridge that will now span the waterway and provide much easier crossings in the future, thanks to the Coalition Engineer Task Force.

restaurant on our own."

One local restaurant popular with U.S. Forces was in the town of Bratsigovo, near the Gizdovo Orphanage U.S. Forces helped renovate. At the orphanage, engineers installed showers, renovated bathrooms, repaired roofing and electrical, and painted the interior and exterior. In addition to building a new bridge in Sinitevo, engineers helped repair a bridge in the town of Ognianovo. They also participated in demolition training in early June at a Bulgarian range near Asenovgrad.

Laster said this is the second Cornerstone project for the 194th Engineer Brigade (TA). In 1998, members of the unit renovated a hospital in western Bulgaria, about 20 miles from the Serbian border. □

Sowell Named Disaster Responder of the Year

by Dave Treadway

James H. Sowell, Jr., a Civil Engineering Technician and emergency team leader with Nashville District's Emergency Management Branch, was recently named HQUSACE Disaster Responder of the Year for 2001.

Sowell was called to New York only days after the World Trade Center was struck by terrorists. On a six-hour notice, he prepared the Rapid Response Vehicle # (RRV)-03 Team and equipment and deployed to the North Atlantic Division Emergency Operations Center, Ft. Hamilton, New York, to provide VSAT communications capability for the Division Commander.

"Only four days after the attack," said Sowell, "my team was enroute to New York City with Nashville's RRV. I was proud to be going but scared about what we would find when we got there. Along the way, when we would stop to eat, people would say, 'I'm proud of you for going. You are in our prayers.'"

"It made us know that we were needed. When we arrived after driving all night, they sent us to pier 90 and asked us to establish critical communication links."

People

Sowell was commended for his leadership, knowledge and expertise of both the Deployable Tactical Operations System (DTOS) and the RRV which were invaluable to critical mission accomplishment during the Corps' response and recovery efforts in New York. From Sept. 17 to Oct. 1, Sowell led the team in support of Federal Emergency Management Agency operations at Pier 90. The team provided critical Command and Control telephone and high-speed computer network connectivity.

Officials noted that his superb performance during this deployment resulted in widespread recognition of the Corps' unique stand-alone Command and Control communications and civil emergency response capabilities.

Although the World Trade Center deployment was the most visible, it was only one of his many accomplishments during a very busy year.

In January he hosted the National



Photo by Dave Treadway

James Sowell is presented a plaque June 14 by District Engineer LTC Steve Gay naming him USACE Disaster Responder of the Year for 2001. Sowell led the team that responded to the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in September last year.

DTOS Workshop at Opryland and served as Chairman of the Logistics Management subgroup. In February he played a key role in updating District flood response plans and executed the best District Flood Staff Training Exercise in recent years.

In late February and early March, Sowell served as the Team Leader of RRV03 that deployed to Jackson, Tenn., in direct support of the 1st Continental USA New Madrid Earthquake Staff Training Exercise. In April he displayed and demonstrated the RRV to more than 400 delegates of the International Water Safety Conference in Nashville and coordinated emergency response planning with representatives of TWRA and the U.S. Coast Guard. Later that same month he was an integral part of the Inspection of Completed Works team that prepares annual reports of local flood protection projects.

In May he planned for and coordinated the display of a Deployable Tactical Operations Center (four vehicles) at the

S.A.M.E. National Training Conference in Nashville, a conference that drew more than 1,200 military engineers and architect-engineer firm representatives.

During June and July, he performed several successful lock dewaterings for his regular position with the Nashville Repair Station. During August, he personally recruited and trained new RRV team members and deployed the RRV team to Savannah, Ga., in support of a hurricane exercise. This marked the first test deployment of the new trailer-mounted VSAT system. Following the exercise, he conducted additional VSAT training for the entire team, and worked out all technical network problems with the vendor in Houston, Tex., and the TCS in Mobile, Ala.

"Without this training and certification of operational capability," said Emergency Manager David L. Verploegen, "the RRV would not have been 100% ready for deployment to the World Trade Center disaster." □

Employees, Families

*Story by Dave Treadway
Photos by Ed Evans, Steve Foshee, and Dave Treadway*

The surrounding photos attest to the success of Engineer Day 2002. Well attended under cloudy skies at Old Hickory's Rockland Recreation Area, the annual event provided fun-filled activities for children of all ages.

The day featured a Barbecue and Sauce Contest, a heated Volleyball Tourney and a well-attended Horseshoe Tourney.

Jewel Spivey's team captured first place in the American Society of Military Comptrollers-sponsored Barbecue Contest, with Bill Barnes' team second and Jim Cook's team third. Jim Cook's team got revenge by winning the Sauce Contest, Bill Barnes' team again took second, and Mary Hayeland's team sneaked in at third. Judges Lisa Gay, Laura Faber (FOX 17 News), and Jay Carter (Bhate Environmental Associates) had to choose between entrants named The Lipitorians, The Outlaws, Young and the Restless,

S.P.O.M., Cheatham Powerhouse, Piggy Wizard, and IBFM.

Fox 17 even featured the Picnic on the evening news.

The PPPMD Team 1 squeaked through all their matches to win the District's Corps' Annual Volleyball tournament. Organizer Cullum Miller said both team sportsmanship and the level of play were unprecedented.

The horseshoe competition, organized and directed by Phyllis Kohl, drew a total of 14 teams. After some really good matches, Tim McCleskey and Jerry Lee walked away winners.

But the real winners were the kids (photos as evidence). They enjoyed the playground, egg-tossing contest, balloon-tossing contest, the dunking booth, horseback riding, duck chasing, swings, slides, balloons, and face-painting. Some even enjoyed watching the heated volleyball contests.

Of course, the excellent barbecue prepared by Curtis Malone and barbecue contestants was a big hit at lunch time and helped make Engineer Day 2002 one of the best ever! □



Families Enjoy Engineer Day 2002

For a complete list of Length of Service Awards presented at the Picnic by LTC Gay visit www.usace.army.mil/digest



LDP Class Makes Television Appearance

by Sondra Hafling

Thank you for calling Nashville Public Television. May I take your pledge?" This greeting was repeated numerous times Sunday June 9 as District employees, along with friends and family, reached out to provide public service for a worthy cause.

As a part of the Leadership Development Training Program (LDP), class members take part in community service outreach endeavors. The 2002 class elected to volunteer for the Nashville Public Television (NPT) seasonal fundraiser. The television station, Channel 8, provides educational, informative, and entertaining programming to the Davidson County community area. NPT is an independent, non-profit, community-licensed PBS station, rather than a government-licensed one, that relies on viewers and volunteers in middle Tennessee for funding.

"Volunteers are vital to the life of NPT," explained Liz Edsall, Vice President for Development. "Their enthusiasm during pledge drives energizes our staff, and their willingness to talk to viewers encourages them to support NPT and keeps public television alive in middle Tennessee."

Volunteerism and community service initiatives are important to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Nashville District. That volunteerism, according to the Chief of Engineers, LTG Robert B. Flowers, can be truly rewarding for both the giver and the recipient - it creates a win/win situation; enriching one's own life while working to benefit others.

"We must be committed," said Flowers, "to something greater than our own personal interest."

Embracing the volunteer spirit, current class members and previous graduates, including family and friends, joined together to reach out and help a worthy cause while also promoting the Corps of Engineers in our own community.

The day began with an orientation on the computer registration system and phone bank. The class quickly adapted to the technology, and worked for three-and-one-half hours during the daily on-air program, hosted by Janet Ivy of the

Tennessee Wild Side and Leah Little of the Home Shopping Network. Both of them were also volunteers. As a matter of fact, nearly everyone there was a volunteer ... the cameramen, the training coordinator, and the computer and phone bank training coordinator.

Communication

During program breaks, LDP students answered phones, took pledges, noted programming suggestions, answered questions about public television, and snacked on some great munchies provided by, you guessed it, volunteers! Occasionally "off-the-wall" comments or questions from callers added to the fun and made the day an entertaining experience.

"It was a fulfilling afternoon, for a very worthwhile volunteer project", stated Freddie Bell, who was proud he could be part of a good-will effort to provide for quality public television. Corps representatives answered calls that resulted in \$2,250 in pledges for NPT. Classmate Mark Herd also enjoyed the experience.

"I thought it was great," said Herd, "we had fun and helped out a very worthy cause."

"During the June membership drive," said NPT's Julie Wickerham, "more than 70 individuals volunteered their time to help make the membership drive a success." She said approximately 425,000 viewers in middle Tennessee and southern Kentucky watch NPT each week. □

A Gathering of Eagles

by Mark Willis

The weather outside was overcast, with a misty, drizzling rain but that didn't keep the EAGLES from gathering recently at Belmont University's Jack C. Massey Business Center for the opening session of Nashville District's 2002 Employees Achieving Greatness and Leadership Excellence Program.

During the opening session, Program Administrator Major Richard Shelton and Mary Fink, of Belmont University, welcomed new participants to the part-time, seven-month development program designed to enhance both individual and team-member skills of Nashville District employees.

In another session, students completed the Thriving Inventory, which provided the class with an opportunity to reflect on the attitudes and behaviors that play a significant role in their lives.

On Day Two, EAGLE students completed the Myers-Briggs Indicator test, which focuses on understanding your personality type. This allows students to build on their personality type to both understand others and communicate better. Belmont instructors also discussed learning styles in an effort to demonstrate, and better understand, how each of us learns.

The 16 EAGLE participants will meet monthly at either Belmont University or Corps facilities until December, and participate in both an in-house (Corps) service project, as well as a community outreach project.

"The EAGLE class is going to be a learning experience I'll never forget," said Mickie Porter, Administrative Assistant in Real Estate Division. "I feel privileged to have the opportunity to learn from the wonderful teachers at Belmont, as well as the Senior Leaders from the Corps." Elaine Bustillos, Security Assistant, Logistics Management/Security Office, feels the same way.

"It's an opportunity to learn new ways of doing business and gaining new insight," said Bustillos. "I was very apprehensive at first, and had doubts that I could really learn something I hadn't already heard. After the first day, I became more receptive to the program and what it had to offer. I'm looking forward to meeting again with EAGLE members, and to participating in activities/sessions and community service projects."

EAGLE Jeff Hitchcock, a civil engineer in the Construction Branch, is also enthused about the program.

"What I like best about being in the

Continued on Page 9
See EAGLES

Youngsters Enjoy Fishing Derby, Environment

by Troy Hawks and Greg Thomas

Rangers at Lake Cumberland and Cheatham Lake recently hosted more than 270 youngsters to help them gain an appreciation for the environment.

Lake Cumberland Park Ranger Troy Hawks worked closely with National Forest Biologist Joe Metzmeier to put together a youth fishing derby at the Daniel Boone National Forest in Pulaski County, Ky.

The resourceful pair served as primary organizers but also recruited lots of help from the Somerset Kiwanis Club, Kentucky Division of Forestry, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, and the Kentucky Nature Preserve Commission.

Days prior to the event, Jerry Stephens, District Ranger with the U.S. Forest Service, directed the mowing and cleaning of the area around the fishing site, as well as improvements to the access and parking area. The weather even cooperated.

Excitement filled the air as more and more fish were weighed in. Youngsters landed largemouth bass, catfish, blue gill, even a carp, and presented them for measurement and judgment of the scale.

Prizes and trophies, gathered through the efforts of the Somerset Kiwanis Club, were awarded to the winners, ages 15 and under, for the largest and smallest fish, most fish caught for the day, and the

casting contest. Three age classifications for anglers increased the fairness of the prize/trophy distribution. Some door prizes were awarded simply by drawing names of anglers. More than 100 children and young adults, and 75 guardians attended the event.

While assigned to Cheatham Lake, Ranger Hawks served as principle organizer of the kids' fishing derby there for several years.

"This (the Pulaski County derby) was a super cooperative effort," said Hawks, "and the first fishing derby I have assisted in organizing where so many organizations played such an important role in the successful outcome of an event."

The event also met part of the requirements of the University of Kentucky Natural Resources Leadership Institute training, of which he and Biologist Metzmeier are a part. Metzmeier said they have already begun discussing next year's fishing derby.

In late April, Rangers at Cheatham Lake hosted more than 170 4th graders from East and West Cheatham Elementary schools during their annual Environmental Awareness Day at Lock A Campground.

Students learned the basics of turkey hunting from Park Ranger Greg Thomas. He revealed safety tips, told them how to distinguish males versus females, showed different types of turkey calls, and told them what to bring along when hunting.

Carolyn Dillard and Rhonda Batts, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, used a watershed model and fake chemicals to educate students about the effects of different chemicals on our ground water.

Taking a jump back in time, students learned to appreciate modern technology by looking at some tools of the past. Radnor Lake Park Ranger LinnAnn Welch enticed the students culturally with a program on Native American tribes that once called Tennessee home.

Officers Terry Hasting and Jeremy Odom, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, gave many students their first close look at skulls and fur of animals

TWRA's Jerome Odom and Terry Hastings let 4th graders experience the feel of a preserved snake skin.

common to the state.

Sarah Welker, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge, told the students about endangered species, Tracy O'Neal, Tennessee Forestry Association, helped students identify different trees and commercial uses for each, Ranger Scott Fanning talked about water safety, and Jenelle Spratt, Tennessee Solid Waste Education Program, showed students the value of recycling as a way to protect our fragile environment. □

This happy angler shows off her catch made possible by Corps Rangers at Lake Cumberland and National Forest Biologist Joe Metzmeier, as well as a host of other organizers in Pulaski County, Ky.



EAGLES

Continued From Page 8

class is the opportunity to interact with a wonderful group of individuals," said Hitchcock. "I think both the team and the community will benefit from this program through personal development workshops and community service projects."

The 2002 EAGLE class is made up of a wide variety of District employees, ranging from administrative assistants, park rangers, lock and dam workers. Class members include Michael Adcock, Joy Broach, Elaine Bustillos, Janelle Dickens, Joseph Faustina, Richard Graham, Jeffrey Hitchcock, Melanie Leslie, Tommy Mason, Daniel Munoz, Mickie Porter, Tad Potter, Steven Shaw, John Skinner, Owen Traugher, and Mark Willis.

After a group photo, each EAGLE departed Belmont University with four new books under their arm and some *sizable* reading assignments. Despite that ...spirits were still high. □



The Corps Crowd

Congratulations to...

...Mandy Sage, who graduated from Belmont University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting, and was promoted from Student Trainee to Accountant in the F&A Office.

...Mike Ensich, Chief Operations Division, selected to temporarily fill Charlie Hess' position in Headquarters, USACE. He will be Acting Chief, Operations Division, and Civil Works Directorate starting July 8.

...Tim Wright, Lockmaster at Ft. Loudon and Melton Hill Locks, was selected as the Employee of the Month for June.

...the newly elected American Society of Military Comptrollers, Music City Chapter officers for the upcoming year: President-Dane Owens, 1st Vice President-B.J. Fagan, 2nd Vice President-Joanne Mann, 3rd Vice President Barbara Evans, Treasurer-Shalanda McMurry, and Secretary-Gail Floyd.

... Nickajack Lock Operator Butch Witcher and his wife, Joanie, upon the graduation of their son Brandon, May 30, from Marion Co. High School, with a full two-year academic scholarship to Chattanooga State College, and upon the marriage of their daughter Ashley, June 8,

to Garrett Sowder in Kimball, Tenn. The couple will reside in Chattanooga, Tenn.

...Bob Tuck, husband of Debbie Tuck, Regulatory Branch. Bob is a member of the Tenn. Air National Guard who received the Commander's Shadow Award and shared in a team engineering award for his efforts while serving on active duty in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Southern Watch. Bob led a survey team in airstrip repairs, base improvements and expansion. Upon his return home he was also awarded Airman of the Quarter and is in the running for Airman of the Year for 2002. Bob works for Gresham, Smith & Partners.

Welcome to...

... Stacy Bilbrey, new Student Aide at Dale Hollow Lake Resource Office. She is currently a junior at Tennessee Tech, majoring in Wildlife and Fisheries Science.

... Gary Bruce, new Co-op Park Ranger at Dale Hollow Lake. He currently has a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science and is pursuing a second degree in Biology at Tennessee Tech.

... Cory Morgan and Kyle Young were recently selected as new Structural Engineers in the Design Branch.

... Rob Baulsirr, a new Mechanical Engineer Co-op in the Design Branch.

Farewell to...

...Bill Vogel, former Nashville Deputy District Engineer is retiring for the second time, this time as a civilian from Military Programs, HQUSACE, on July 3.

...Jim Jackson, who recently retired from Laurel Power Plant.

Sympathy to...

...the family of retiree Claude E. Austin, former shift operator, Dale Hollow Power Plant, who passed away on June 30.

...the family of retiree Marcus Safley, formerly with the Engineering-Planning Division, who passed away June 23. Services were held on June 27 at Belle Meade United Methodist Church.

...Bill Barnes, Chief, Real Estate Division, whose mother passed away June 21.

...the family of Ira "Cap" Blankenship, who recently passed away on June 16. He was a Captain in the Army from 1942 to 1946 and worked at both Cheatham and Old Hickory Dam.

...Wayne Ligon, whose mother-in-law, Mrs. Jewel Bennett, passed away May 29.

...Bob Taphorn, whose mother, Eunice Wilder, passed away May 30.

...retiree Bob Amonette, whose mother, Rose Amonette, passed away June 3.

... the family of retiree Jack Hoge, who passed away July 2. Jack was a maintenance mechanic and a lock operator at Nickajack Lock, retiring in 1989.

Wedding Bells...

...Tiffany R. Milliken, daughter of former Executive Office Administrative Assistant, Judy Smith, was married to Daniel J. Crews, son of Carl Crews, Old Hickory Lake, Resource Manager, at sundown June 8 at Old Hickory Lake.

... Nickajack Lockmaster Jim Nelson and his wife, Gayle, upon the marriage of their son James David Nelson to Laci Sims, on June 28 in Whitwell, Tenn. The couple will reside in Dunlap, Tenn. □

Lisa Gay, Jay Carter (Bhate Environmental Associates) and Laura Faber (Fox 17 News) served as judges for the Barbecue Contest sponsored by The American Society of Military Comptrollers at the 2002 Engineers Day Picnic.



Photo by Dave Treadway

Historical Committee Writes New Chapter

Compiled by Committee Members

During the next few years, the District Historical Committee will attempt to document the history of the Nashville District. This was last done when Dr. Leland R. Johnson published *Engineers on the Twin Rivers* and documented the history of the District through the early 1970's.

His work allows us to read about accomplishments of all the Corps employees who did so much for the Nashville District and all the citizens who live in our two river basins. The hard work of those dedicated employees lives on in Nashville District projects and in our collective memories.

The Committee will add new bits of history to the next edition of the Nashville District's story. New chapters of this book will come from the efforts of people who you see everyday in the hallways or meet out in the field at our projects. Committee members decided to look at just one aspect of our multi-faceted District to see what has transpired since Dr. Johnson penned his account. We took a quick look back at those projects in which Engineering-Construction Division has been involved over the last 30 years. The facts will be great reading in our next history book.

Communication

You will read about the completion of the Wolf Creek Dam Diaphragm Wall and the emergency response required to stabilize the dam. Laurel Dam and Martin's Fork Dam were completed and then the District moved its effort south to work with Mobile District on the Tennessee-



Tunnels prevent flooding in Harlan, Ky.

Tombigbee Waterway. The photographs of the massive Divide Cut Area and the Bay Springs Lock with its 90-foot lift can hardly do justice to what then was the largest civil works project in the history of the Corps. After Tenn-Tom, we headed back north to design and build the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. This 125,000-acre development presented us with some huge challenges in building roads and recreation areas in some of the most rugged and beautiful lands in the eastern United States.

Then it was time to work on the flood control projects in the Upper Cumberland River Area of eastern Kentucky. Pineville, Harlan, Williamsburg, Middlesborough, and many other communities situated along the narrow flood plain at the bottoms of steep valleys are now protected from the floods that have devastated that area for so many years.

There are also many projects designed by Nashville for other districts. Within LRD, Nashville helped Louisville design the Smithland Project, Pittsburgh design the Gray Landing Project, and Huntington design the Gallipolis Project. Nashville then went national in our effort to help the New York District design the Passaic River tunnels, St. Louis District design Lock and Dam No. 26, and the Vicksburg District design Lock and Dam No. 3 on the Red River. Nashville also teamed with Huntington District to help Mobile District in its Central America Mission by completing a comprehensive watershed study to help the country of Nicaragua recover from the destruction caused by Hurricane Mitch.

As the Committee returned to work, members realized they had only begun to take a small glimpse of what had been accomplished by the good people of the Nashville District. People today are writing new chapters for our history



Barges move cargo on the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.

book. The new locks at Kentucky Dam and Chickamauga Dam, as well as our work in Cumberland, Ky, will certainly rate a chapter in the book. There may even be a chapter about some work on the Panama Canal. If the District environmental restoration program keeps growing at the present pace, several pages in the book will be required to tell about various accomplishments. And don't forget, this is just one of the many groups of people in the District who will be contributing writers!

The Historical Committee encourages employees to save photographs, record accomplishments, and document organization activities each of you will want to preserve for future generations to read about. It's going to be a best seller! □

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July in Corps History

1916 - Up to 15 inches of rain fell in the French Broad River basin near Asheville, NC., washing out numerous roads and bridges. By year's end, Nashville District had repaired or rebuilt 90 miles of roadway and several bridges using hired labor. Nearly \$16,000.00 of the \$30,000.00 allotted for the work was returned to the U.S. Treasury.

1942 (July 1) - Nashville District military construction projects a) Berry Hills Air Crew Classification Center and b) Sewart Air Force Base open for business.

1946 (July 24) - Rivers & Harbors Act of 1946 authorizes construction of Old Hickory, Carthage (Cordell Hull) and Celina Dams. Celina was later de-authorized.

1954 (July 30) - 2,000 people watch in 100 degree heat as 10,000 pounds of explosives are used to demolish Lock A. People in small boats gather 600 pounds of fish that float to the surface after the blast. The lock was removed shortly before the dedication of the Cheatham project.

1958 (July 2) - Congress changes the name of Stewart's Ferry Reservoir project to J. Percy Priest.

1964 (July 6) - Nashville District Engineer Colonel James Newman and Congressman Joe Evins break ground for Cordell Hull Lock & Dam.

1972 (July 30) - Laurel Dam completed.

1988 (July 24) - Phase One, the \$795,000 contract for an access road and boat launching area at Piney Grove was finished.

1994 (July 22) - Children learned about Old Hickory Project when WZTV, Channel 17, Fox Network, broadcasted its quarterly program, Kids Stuff. Jim Martens, field producer; Jimmy Daye, cameraman; Tim Hall, technical support; and Colin Begley, co-host of Kids Stuff, videotaped "standups" with Colin and footage of the power plant, lock and dam for the four to five minute segment of the program.

1996 (July 26) - For the first time in the history of the Corps of Engineers, Wilson Lock uses a Caisson type Barge as its Upper Gate to allow use of the lock during repairs. □



Officers Dane Owens, Gail Floyd and B.J. Fagan man a booth at a recent American Society of Military Comptrollers Professional Development Institute in Denver. The Music City Chapter was awarded the Community Service Award, the only award for which a new chapter is eligible. The chapter garnered 150 points from participation by chapter members in three community service projects. The trio in Music City Chapter's booth raised \$150 toward a chapter scholarship fund by selling Tennessee products while posing as Johnny Cash, Loretta Lynn and Minnie Pearl in a '70's theme. More than 3,000 visitors stopped by their booth and many were greeted by Minnie Pearl's signature, "Howdy, I'm so proud to be here."